

218104US-0PCT

10/030988
PTO/PCT Rec'd 12 APR 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
FRANCOIS DUPONT ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/030988 :
FILED: JANUARY 16, 2002 : EXAMINER:

FOR: A NOVEL WATER-RETENTION:
AGENT WATER-SOLUBLE IN A
NEUTRAL OR ALKALINE MEDIUM
OF THE VINYL-ACRYLIC COPOLYMER
TYPE, APPLICATIONS TO COATING COLORS
FOR PAPER AND CARDBOARD, AND
COATING COLORS AND PAPERS AND
CARDBOARDS THUS OBTAINED

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

A1
7. (Amended) A paper coating color characterized in that it contains, in addition to the usual additives, the novel agent according to Claim 4.

A2
9. (Amended) A paper coating color according to Claim 7, characterized in that its water retention and Brookfield viscosity are adjusted simultaneously.